

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Claims 1-22 have been amended to put them in a form more consistent with US practice. Claims 23 and 24 are new. No new matter is introduced.

The Examiner objected to a typographical error in claims 6 and 16. Claims 6 and 16 have been amended to address the Examiner's concerns.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 5-7, 9, 11, 15-17 and 19-21 under 35 USC Section 102(b) as anticipated by Trompower (US Patent No. 6,132,306 A). The Examiner rejected claims 2, 3, 8, 12, 13, and 18 under 35 USC Section 103(a) as obvious over Trompower in view of Ogino et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0032031 A1). The Examiner rejected claims 4 and 14 under 35 USC Section 103(a) as obvious over Trompower, in view of Wallace et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0174666 A1). The Examiner rejected claims 10 and 20 under 35 USC Section 103(a) as obvious over Trompower in view of Hellhake et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0014494 A1). The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

Trompower relates to a cellular communication system in which dedicated repeater controller transceivers are included in base stations and wireless base stations. The repeater controller transceivers are configured to operate on a different channel as compared to communication received by or transmitted directly from mobile terminals. By utilizing a dedicated channel for communications between the base stations and wireless base stations, the contention areas formed by overlapping cell areas is effectively eliminated. In contrast, the disclosure relates to system and method for supporting processing resource sharing and load-sharing among the wireless base stations, which allows for adopting as low as possible configured channel processing resources, and at the same time, is able to avoid call loss caused by inadequate resources, so as to optimize the wireless base station system's resource allocation.

Turning to the language of the claims, independent claim 1, as amended, recites, "[a] wireless base station, comprising: ... a second communication device configured to transmit downlink wireless signals to a subscriber unit and receive uplink wireless signals from the subscriber unit; ... a signal distribution unit configured to selectively allocate downlink data frames and uplink wireless signals associated with the subscriber unit: to the channel processing

device of the wireless base station for processing; and to another wireless base station for processing; and a third communication device configured to communicate with the another wireless base station, wherein the signal distribution unit comprises: a forwarding controller configured to transmit downlink data frames and uplink wireless signals allocated to the another wireless base station for processing to the another wireless base station and receive corresponding downlink wireless signals and uplink data frames from the another wireless base station, through the third communication device.”

The office action alleges that the base station (210, 210') of Trompower is equivalent to the claimed wireless base station of the present invention, and the wireless base station (215, 215') of Trompower is equivalent to the another wireless base station of the present invention, to which the applicant respectfully disagrees. In Trompower,

[A] base station 210' is hardwired to the system backbone 260 via the hardwired network bus 250. Included in the system 200' are wireless base stations 215a' thru 215c', which serve as intermediary stations for extending the effective cell coverage of the base station 210'. For example, a mobile terminal may be registered to wireless base station 215c' which is effectively daisy chained to the base station 210' via wireless base station 215a'. Such a mobile terminal would transmit information directly to the wireless base station 215c', which would process the information and then transmit the information to wireless base station 215a'. In turn, the wireless base station 215b' would process the information and transmit it to the base station 210'. Thus, a communication from the mobile terminal registered to wireless base station 215c' would involve one direct communication between a mobile terminal and a base station, and two subsequent communications from one base station to another.

Trompower, column 32, lines 8-31 (emphasis added). See also, Trompower, Figure 9. Column 35, lines 4-14 of Trompower further recites (emphasis added):

[Information] packets which are transmitted to the base station transceiver 1010 for transmission to a mobile terminal are received via the system backbone 260 by the network transceiver 1027a. The processor 1031a controls an RF transmitter portion 1039a included in the RF section 1035a, the RF transmitter portion 1039a also being connected to the bus 1029a. The processor 1031a causes the RF transmitter portion 1039a to modulate an RF signal using spread spectrum techniques, for example, which in turn carries the information to the desired mobile terminal on the given channel.

From the above recitation of Trompower, it can be seen that the disclosure of the present application differs from Trompower in at least in the aspects set forth below.

The wireless base station 215 of Trompower is intermediary station between the mobile terminal and the base station 210 for extending the effective cell coverage of the base station 210, which is also why the mobile terminal registers with wireless base station 215. However, said “another wireless base station” of claim 1 is just a wireless base station remote to the claimed wireless base station, it is not an intermediary station between the subscriber unit and the claimed wireless base station.

In the uplink, the mobile station of Trompower sends its packets from the wireless base station 215 to which it registers, sequentially to other possible wireless base stations 215, and then to the base station 210. However, in claim 1, it is the claimed wireless base station, rather than the another wireless base station, that receives the uplink wireless signal from the subscriber unit.

In the downlink, the base station of Trompower processes and then sends the packets to the mobile station, while in claim 1, the claimed wireless base station allocates the downlink data frames to the channel processing device of the claimed wireless base station and/or another wireless base station for processing, and then sends the corresponding downlink wireless signals to the subscriber unit.

In addition, the office action alleges that col. 34, lines 10-25 of Trompower discloses the “signal distribution unit” of claim 1. However, the cited portion of Trompower only teaches the base station transceiver 1010 includes connector 1025a, network adapter transceiver 1027a and central processor 1031a. There is no discussion in the cited portion of Trompower or elsewhere of anything in a base station “configured to selectively allocate downlink data frames and uplink wireless signals associated with the subscriber unit: to the channel processing device of the wireless base station for processing; and to another wireless base station for processing,” as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, Trompower does not anticipate claim 1 because Trompower does not teach or disclose “a signal distribution unit configured to selectively allocate downlink data frames and uplink wireless signals associated with the subscriber unit: to the channel processing device of the wireless base station for processing; and to another wireless base station for

processing,” and “a forwarding controller configured to transmit downlink data frames and uplink wireless signals allocated to the another wireless base station for processing to the another wireless base station and receive corresponding downlink wireless signals and uplink data frames from the another wireless base station, through the third communication device,” as recited. The Examiner does not rely on the other references to provide the teachings missing from Trompower. Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated or rendered obvious by Trompower, considered alone or in combination with the other references. Claims 2-10 and 23 depend from claim 1 and are allowable at least by virtue of their dependencies, as well as because of the novel and non-obvious combinations claimed therein.

While the language and scope of independent claims 11, 21 and 22 are not identical to the language and scope of claim 1, the allowability of claims 11, 21 and 22 will be apparent in view of the discussion of claim 1. Claims 12-20 and 24 depend from claim 11 and are allowable at least by virtue of their dependencies, as well as because of the novel and non-obvious combinations claimed therein.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable.
Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
SEED Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC

/Timothy L. Boller/
Timothy L. Boller
Registration No. 47,435

TLB:jrb

701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 5400
Seattle, Washington 98104
Phone: (206) 622-4900
Fax: (206) 682-6031